



## Memorandum

To: Provosts and Chief Academic Officers  
From: Paula K. Compton, Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor  
Date: **April 19, 2022**  
Subject: Endorsement Survey: Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems

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**Background Information:** The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) is reaching out to collect responses from all two- and four-year Ohio public institutions of higher education regarding a proposed alignment for the Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Uncrewed Aircraft Systems.

The Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide (ITAG) is a statewide transfer initiative that guarantees the awarding of college-level credit to students earning agreed-upon industry-recognized credentials. The ITAG initiative was instituted by the Chancellor in February 2021. Students meeting credentialing requirements, regardless of where the learning was achieved, will be eligible to earn credit for specified courses deemed equivalent by faculty and endorsed by Ohio's public institutions of higher education. As some Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) use credentials to align with college credit, ITAGs expand the concept of the value of credentials. To reduce variability across Ohio in the transfer credit evaluation and application process, a set of college-level learning outcomes will be established for each ITAG. The set of learning outcomes, which will be aligned with applicable third-party program accreditation, credentialing, and/or other industry standards, will be vetted by faculty and industry as needed.

**Uncrewed Aircraft Systems CTAG:** Learning outcomes for the Uncrewed Aircraft System course were developed and endorsed by the state through a panel collaboration and statewide survey and will be announced later this year. To access postsecondary credit, students must successfully complete an approved program at an Ohio secondary institution and earn a qualifying score on the end-of-course WebXam created by a panel of experts for this CTAG course. Submissions for the CTAG course will be reviewed by a faculty panel of experts.

**Uncrewed Aircraft Systems ITAG:** The CTAG established a set of statewide learning outcomes that are representative of Uncrewed Aircraft Systems courses being taught at Ohio's public colleges and universities. The statewide panel that developed these learning outcomes determined that The Unmanned Safety Institute (USI) sUAS Safety Certification Level 1 credential aligns to the Uncrewed Aircraft Systems course. The proposed ITAG would use the same learning outcomes and expand access to those who received training in settings outside of Ohio's secondary programs, regardless of where



the learning occurred. If approved, the ITAG would allow students who hold a current sUAS Safety Certification Level 1 credential to be awarded 3 semester hours for Uncrewed Aircraft Systems at a public institution of higher education in Ohio.

**Uncrewed Aircraft Systems ITAG vs. CTAG:** To be eligible for CTAG credit, students must complete an approved program at an Ohio secondary institution and earn a qualifying score on the end-of-course WebXam created by a panel of experts for this CTAG course, whereas any student who holds a current sUAS Safety Certificate Level 1 credential will be eligible for ITAG credit. Postsecondary institutions will award credit for the same course for both the CTAG and the ITAG.

**What We Need from You:** This memo addresses the need for statewide endorsement of the alignment between competencies covered in the sUAS Safety Certificate Level 1 credential examination and the learning outcomes for the recently approved Uncrewed Aircraft Systems CTAG course. Please forward this memorandum and accompanying attachments to the appropriate faculty. Please have **one person** complete the survey using the link below on or before **May 3, 2022.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PB735M8>

A copy of the proposed ITAG learning outcomes and alignment for the credential is included with this memo for reference. The attached PDF of the survey is for reference only and responses should be submitted using the survey link.

Brian Strzempkowski of The Ohio State University serves as our lead content expert and worked with a panel of experts to complete this alignment.

Please contact Nikki Wearly, Director of Career-Technical Education Transfer Initiatives, at [nwearly@highered.ohio.gov](mailto:nwearly@highered.ohio.gov) with any questions.

Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

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